(b) if so, whether Government have examined the information which appeared in the HINDU; and

(c) whether any nexus has been found in the news item and the M/s. Bofors explanation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The documents which appeared in the "HINDU" were examined by the Government and the CBI has been asked to undertake necessary inquiries into all the relevant aspects of these documents.

पर्वतीय क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम

2135. **श्री पृथ्वी माझी** : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद् ने मध्य प्रदेश के कतिपय पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों को पर्वतीय क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम में शामिल करने के लिए विशेषज्ञ दल की सिफारिशों को स्वीकृति दे दी है ;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो यह स्वीकृति कब तक दे दिये जाने की संभावना है; और

(ग) इन क्षेत्रों के सर्वतोन्मुखी विकास के लिए तथा विशेषतः इन क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले जनजातीय लोगों के कल्याण तथा विकास के लिए पर्वतीय क्षेत्र विकास कार्यक्रम में क्या-क्या उपबन्ध तथा लक्ष्य निर्धारित किये जायेंगे ?

योजना तथा कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री (श्री माधव सिंह सोलंकी) : (क) और (ख) यह मामला राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद् के विचारार्थ अभी तक नहीं आया है।

(ग) पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिए विस्तृत दृष्टिकोण और कार्य-नीति सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना प्रलेख के अध्याय 16 में दी गई है।

Number of IPKF men in Sri Lanka

2136. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 785 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th February, 1989 and state the number of IPKF men presently remaining in Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): The present strength of IPKF in Sri Lanka is approximately 50,000.

Indian Air Force aircraft crashes

2137. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of types of Indian Air Force aircraft that have crashed/met with accidents as yet in each year of the Seventh Five Year Plan period and the resulting yearly loss of lives and property;

(b) whether in each enquiry was ordered and corrective measures were taken according to the findings;

(c) the types of the aircraft which had more than two accidents/crashes; and

(d) which of the above types were ordered to be grounded, for intensive inspection| testing and what were the findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) It would not be in public interest to disclose the information in this regard.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It would not be in public interest to disclose this information.

(d) One of the MIG-21 variants was grounded for a short period during 1985-86 for intensive inspection/testing. Further details in this regard cannot be disclosed in public interest.

Purchase of SSK submarines for the Indian Navy

2138. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be plased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General has adversely commented in its report on the purchase of the SSK submarines for the Indian Navy that an exacting technical requirement of "Unfettered right of rejection" was not insisted upon by Government, in case the submarines' "Self-noise" exceeded the specified value;

(b) whether excess 'self-noise' of the submarine can endanger its very safety by making it easier for the enemy to detect it; and

(c) what were the compulsions with Government not to insist on such a right of rejection where the safety of the submarine itself and the lives of its crew were involved?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (c) The Audit Para, in question, has commented upon certain matters connected with the procurement of SSK submarines. The observations of Audit, as well as the comments of the Ministry, are under examination of the Public Accounts Committee.

Delayed Central Projects

2139. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the delayed Central Projects costing Rs. 10 crores or more originally;

(b) what is the over-run in each case in the completion time and the cost as estimated at present;

(c) what is the resulting hike in the foreign exchange component in each case due to the fall in the value of rupee;

(d) what are the details of common factors that have been identified for causing delay;

(e) whether it is possible to manage them; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) The monitoring system of the Ministry covers only projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above and the details in respect of each of the projects are given *inter alia* in the Annual Report of the Ministry circulated to Members every year.

(c) Cost escalation in projects takes place due to various factors, such as fluctuations in foreign exchange parity rates, increase in input costs, additional imposts levied by Government etc. Impact of these factors on the project cost varies from one time period to another. It is therefore, not possible to quantify the hike attributable to foreign exchange element vis-a-vis parity value of rupee.

(d) to (f) Project delays are on account of various reasons, which include—